



Office of Water Quality

MS4-319 Collaboration Examples

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MS4-319 Collaboration

- Both the 319 and MS4 programs are focused on reducing nonpoint source pollution.
- The MS4 permit and corresponding SWQMP are regulatory requirements while 319 projects are voluntary.
- 319 funding cannot be used to accomplish tasks required by the MS4 permit and corresponding plans.
- 319 funds can be used to go above and beyond the MS4 requirements.
- 319-MS4 guidance can be found here:
<https://www.in.gov/idem/nps/3430.htm>.
- If there are any questions, contact your watershed specialist.

MCM 1 – Public Education and Outreach

Think of topics and events that go above and beyond your minimum control measure (MCM) 1 requirements.

Examples:

- You might be required to distribute brochures covering MS4 concerns. To go above and beyond, the brochures could be distributed outside of the MS4 boundaries and/or contain information pertaining to overall watershed concerns (nutrients, sediment, E. coli, etc.)
- You may have a recreational guide for your MS4. You could partner with the 319 project to create a recreational guide including information on the whole watershed which could be distributed beyond the MS4 boundary.
- You may be required to participate in outreach events each year. 319 projects often host education events, or the MS4 and 319 project could partner to host an event. Content can be dually targeted to MS4 and 319 concerns to go above and beyond the MCM requirements.

MCM 2 – Public Participation and Involvement

Almost all recommended MCM 2 best practices can be expanded to meet the above and beyond criteria.

Examples:

- Volunteer educational water quality sampling within the MS4 area could be expanded to the broader watershed and include parameters of concern in the Watershed Management Plan.
- River cleanups can be expanded to include education on watershed nonpoint source pollution concerns.
- Citizen watch groups can be expanded through the watershed, utilize the MS4 framework for notification, and forward watershed concerns to the 319 group.
- Expand “adopt a drain/stream” programs to areas outside of the MS4 boundary.

MCM 3 – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

This MCM is specifically focused on the MS4 infrastructure and is not eligible for 319 funding.

However, related collaboration efforts could still exist:

- Partnering to educate homeowners across the watershed to remove septic connections to tile lines.
- Partnering to educate homeowners across the watershed to remove downspout connections to storm/sanitary sewers.

MCM 4 – Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

MCM 4 is expansive and requires almost all water quality actions to be taken. There is very little room to go above and beyond to satisfy 319 requirements. If you have an idea, contact your stormwater specialist or watershed specialist to discuss it.

MCM 5 – Post-Construction Stormwater Runoff Control

MCM 5 is an area where 319 implementation funds can be used to install best management practices that go above and beyond the SWQMP to improve water quality.

Examples:

- Install a bioswale in an existing development to infiltrate water before it reaches the storm sewer.
- Install pervious pavers in an existing parking lot that discharges to a rain garden.
- Retrofit a stormwater detention pond with a small wetland complex to help filter stormwater and to increase residence time in the pond.
- Install rain barrels at residential homes to promote infiltration and treatment of stormwater.

MCM 6 – Municipal Operations Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

MCM 6 is mostly internal to the MS4 operators and infrastructure and therefore ineligible for 319 funding.

However, 319 partners may be able to provide support and technical assistance for required actions like training municipal staff and water quality improvements to flood management projects.

Examples:

- The 319 watershed coordinator could present on watershed-wide stormwater concerns as part of the municipal employee education program.
- The 319 watershed coordinator could provide technical assistance on ideas to retrofit flood control devices to provide water quality benefits and amenities to MS4 residents.



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